

Message Text

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67

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCA-01 VO-03 CPR-01 SS-15 NSC-05 SAJ-01

L-02 INSE-00 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01

IO-10 /059 W

----- 029779

R 241556Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6552

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CGEN,UR,US(MCLEAN, ROBER ALEXANDER)

SUBJECT: CUSTOMS CONFISCATION

REF: MOSCOW 694, 695

1. IN CUSTOMS DEVELOPMENT MADE KNOWN AFTER DISPATCH OF REFTELS, EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED LETTER FROM ROBERT ALEXANDER MCLEAN, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR AT UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, COMPLAINING OF SERIOUS CUSTOMS INCIDENT.

2. AFTER THREE WEEKS' RESEARCH IN MOSCOW, LENINGRAD AND KIEV, (LAST STAGE OF 5-YEAR RESEARCH PROJECT ON POET V. XLEBNIKOV), MCLEAN WAS STOPPED AT SOVIET CUSTOMS, YBORG. AT END OF ONE- AND A-HALF-HOUR SEARCH, SOVIET CUSTOMS CONFISCATED THREE CARTRIDGES COLOR FILM, ALL RESEARCH NOTES, TEXTS, XEROXED MATERIAL, BIBLIOGRAPHIC INDEX CARDS, RESEARCH PHOTOGRAPHS, AND OTHER PERSONAL DOCUMENTS.

3. CUSTOMS INFORMED MCLEAN THAT THEY WOULD DEVELOP HIS PICTURES BY COLOR PROCESSING AND IF ALL WORK WAS VERIFIED BY LENING LIBRARY, ALL MATERIALS WOULD BE MAILED BACK TO HIM. MCLEAN AND EMBASSY NOT SANGUINE ABOUT THIS POSSIBLITY WITHOUT POSITIVE EMBASSY ACTION.

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4. EMBASSY PLANS INITIATE EFFORT TO RECOVER MATERIAL FROM
SOVIET CUSTOMS.

IN ADDITION, CONSOFF PLANS RAISE ISSUE AT EARLIEST CONVENIENT
OPPORTUNITY AT MFA CONSULAR ADMINISTRATION.
STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Authority: SmithRJ
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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